

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 00402 271346Z

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ACTION FSI-01

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R 271307Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5090

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 0402

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFSP, NL
SUBJECT: POST LANGUAGE PROGRAM BUDGET, FY-1975
REF: STATE 012414

1. THE POST WAS AWARE THAT OPERATIONS WERE ON A CONTINUING RESOLUTION BASIS AND THAT ITS OBLIGATIONS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF FY-75 (\$4,870.) EXCEEDED ITS FIRST HALF OF FY-74 (\$3,375) BY \$1,495. THIS EXCEEDED AMOUNT WAS DUE TO:
A. SALARY INCREASES \$1,030.-DUE TO ANNUALIZED COSTS OF 25 PERCENT WAGE INCREASE EFFECTIVE MARCH 3, 1974 AND AN ADDITIONAL 9.2 PERCENT INCREASE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 13, 1974.
B. AVERAGE EXCHANGE RATE FOR FIRST HALF OF FY-74 2- 2.66 AND FOR FIRST HALF FY-75 WAS 2.64. THIS DROP IN EXCHANGE RATE ALSO CAUSED AN INCREASE IN FIRST HALF FY-75. THE EXCHANGE RATE TODAY IS 2.415.
C. DUE TO A LARGE TURN OVER IN PERSONNEL IN THE EMBASSY AS WELL AS THE CONSULATE GENERALS IN AMSTERDAM AND ROTTERDAM DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS, SEVERAL ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS ARRIVING HAVE SHOWN AN INTEREST IN STUDYING DUTCH. THESE PERSONNEL WERE ACCOMMODATED WITH THE BELIEF THAT AMPLE FUNDS WOULD BE FORTHCOMING EARLY ENOUGH TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY CHANGE IN THE SCHEDULE TO REMAIN WITHIN OUR FIRST HALF OF FY-75 ALLOCATION.
UNFORTUNATELY OUR ALLOTMENT ALTHOUGH DATED DECEMBER 19 WAS NOT RECEIVED UNTIL JANUARY 6. HAD THE ALLOTMENT BEEN SENT TELEGRAPHICALLY, SOME ADJUSTMENT MIGHT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE.

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PAGE 02 THE HA 00402 271346Z

2. POST HAS EXPENDED \$4,870. THRU DECEMBER 31. A CONTRACT HAS BEEN SIGNED AND \$624. RESERVED FOR INDIVIDUAL FRENCH LESSONS FOR DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE EMPLOYEE DUE FOR TRANSFER PER SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION NO. 52675 REFERRED TO IN THE HAGUE 0140. JANUARY 1 THRU 17 LESSONS TOTAL 96 HOURS FOR THE HAGUE, AMSTERDAM AND ROTTERDAM AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$655. TOTAL TO DATE INCLUDING RESERVING FUNDS FOR INDIVIDUAL FRENCH LESSONS IS \$6,149. THE THIRD QUARTER CUMULATIVE ALLOTMENT IS \$6,075. LANGUAGE CLASSES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED EFFECTIVE JANUARY 18 PENDING THE FOURTH QUARTER AVAILABILITY OF \$1,500. THE POST WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED WITH THE PROGRAM OUTLINED IN THE HAGUE 0140 BUT COULD CURTAIL THE PROGRAM IN THE FOURTH QUARTER TO 3 HOURS PER DAY THE HAGUE AND 1 HOUR PER DAY AT EACH OF THE CONSULATES. THIS REDUCED PROGRAM WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INCREASE OF \$800 FOR FOURTH QUARTER.

3. POST IS REVIEWING ITS LANGUAGE PROGRAM AND WILL APPLY PRIORITIES ACCORDING TO 3FAM 873.3 UNLESS ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE FORTHCOMING, LANGUAGE LESSONS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER WILL BE RESCHEDULED TO REMAIN WITHIN \$1,500. AVAILABLE.

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